

Application No. 10/061458
Page 2

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2L-10389-US01

Amendments To The Specification:

To the paragraphs beginning at column 2, line 22:

(iii) an expandable looped member connecting the outer arm ends in each pair of first and second arms; the looped member having an axial component length as measured in an axial direction from an axial outward extremity to an axial inward extremity, wherein the axial component length reduces in length [extremity which moves axially inwardly, with respect to the associated connecting bar end,] with stent expansion.

The arms and expandable looped members are constructed and dimensioned so that the [radial] axial outward distance traveled by the arms' outer ends in each pair of first and second arms is approximately equal to the reduction in length of the axial component length of the associated looped member [axial inward distance traveled by the associated looped member extremity,] as the stent is expanded.

To the paragraph beginning at column 4, line 29:

As noted above, the stent arm pairs are attached to each end of the connecting bar for pivotal movement away from the opposing arm in each pair, and away from the connecting bar, for stent expansion. The outer arm ends of each arm pair move in an outward direction, away from the connecting bar and travel along a path that has a radial and an axial component. The distance the outer arm ends travel in the axial outward direction, that is in the axial direction away from the connecting bar, is approximately equal to the reduction in length of the axial component length of the associated looped member as measured in an axial direction from an axial outward extremity to an axial inward extremity of the associated looped member [axial inward distance traveled by the looped member extremity]. This feature of the invention is illustrated more fully below with respect to Figs. 3A-3B.

The arms and expandable looped members may also be described as being constructed and dimensioned so that the distance as measured in the axial direction between the axial outward extremities of the opposed expandable looped members of a unit cell is substantially equal before and after stent expansion.

Application No. 10/061458
Page 3

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Attorney Docket No. S63.2L-10389-US01

To the paragraph beginning at column 5, line 31:

As the arms move outward, the component length of the expandable looped member as measured in an axial direction from an axial outward extremity to an axial inward extremity of the expandable looped member is caused to reduce in length in the axial direction [move inward, which as used herein refers to movement toward the connecting bar, and in this case toward the associated end of the connecting bar]. The reduction in the component length of the expandable looped member is approximately equal to the distance the outer arm ends travel in the axial outward direction. The connecting bar stabilizes the unit cell and provides rigidity for strength. More importantly, the ends of the central bar act as pivot points, allowing for expansion of the unit cell, and at the same time the central bar prevents shortening of the unit cell during expansion.